

Manchester ^{still} **FREE 5p** **PRESS**

THE NEWS
YOU'RE NOT
SUPPOSED
TO KNOW

Issue 21



INSIDE STORIES

ALF & ADA



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WHAT'S NEW

What's on, books, films
and other goodies.

**AND LOTS
MORE INSIDE**



EQUAL PAY FRAUD

WITH LESS THAN 18 months to go before the equal pay act becomes law, women in many industries are facing an uphill battle to gain parity with men's wages. Even the closing of the differentials between men and women which can be negotiated under Phase Three is not making the situation any better as

the women in APEX at Hawker Siddeley's Woodford factory have found. Employers like Hawker Siddeley are clearly reluctant to pay women the full rate for the job. And together with other companies they are trying to get round the Act by introducing "job evaluation" schemes which

are designed to keep women on a permanently lower wage than their male fellow workers. In this issue of Free Press we look at how firms are trying to fiddle women out of a decent wage - and how the women workers are starting to fight back. On pages eight and nine

Unnatural gasp

They converted us to North Sea gas the other week - or at least they tried. For weeks before we got lots of glossy handouts about the benefits of natural gas and how easy it was to convert everything.

We've got a gas fire, oven and multi-point water heater which provides hot water for the whole place. The contract conversion men came on Monday and after a bit of pestering and chasing them round the area, they had finished by Wednesday - except for the heater flue which they said had to be fixed by the gas board.

Anyway on Wednesday night the water heater wouldn't light up. A fitter came the next day, after a phone call to the Altrincham headquarters conversion unit (928 6311), and put it right. Everything was OK until Saturday when the heater wouldn't light up again.

The gas board said it was only a second emergency and they couldn't come til Monday. On Monday nobody came and the board said someone would come on Tuesday. They did. Two gents from the board on a routine check of the conversions, found faults in every appliance.

Not one of the three had been done properly. The heater we knew about. But the oven, which had tended to growl and rumble and go



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FROM OUR READERS



out on one side, hadn't been fitted with an air control. The ignition on the gas fire was found to be faulty. "We'll file our report in the morning," they said.

The next day a conversion back-up fitter came round to look at the heater. It needs the flue fitting, he said and that's the gas board's job. No, he couldn't look at the oven because that wasn't on his "note." They have to have a note for everything, apparently. I persuaded him just to have a quick peep and he said a hole for the air control screw hadn't been drilled. He'd report it.

A few minutes later another post-conversion man came round to look at the oven. No, he said, this doesn't need an air control screw. The gas holes hadn't been made big enough. Just titivated up, he said. So he took out the two burners and took them to Stretford for drilling the holes bigger. They'd be back in a couple of days.

So far it's taken ten days and we're no further forward than when they began. In

fact we're a damn sight worse off.

Yours desperately
Richard Williams
Stockport

LETTERS, TELEGRAMS OF CONGRATULATIONS, AND INSULTS SHOULD BE SENT TO FREE PRESS, 45 ASPINALL STREET, MCHR 14.



Visiting prisons

Dear Free Press,

I don't know if anyone can help, but I am conducting some personal research into conditions in local closed prisons, 1960 onwards, and am interested in the position regarding 'open'

visiting with reference to Strangeways. The unecessarily degrading 'visiting boxes' gave way to a visiting room in London prisons ie Pentonville c1962, but I cannot get comparative data regarding HM prisons in Manchester or Liverpool,

P. A. Evans
150 Market Street
Chapel-en-le-Frith
Stockport
Cheshire

Pseud's tickle

Dear Free Press,

It must be "lifted" from Private Eye's Pseuds Corner - your film page, I mean. Does your reviewer ("nameless") expect your readers to expect from a film like "Shaft in Africa" a tackle on the surface of racism (or even a tickle). Come off it, we aren't all as stupid as you might think.

love
Jim Newcombe
7 Cuthbert Rd
Cheadle, Ches

IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

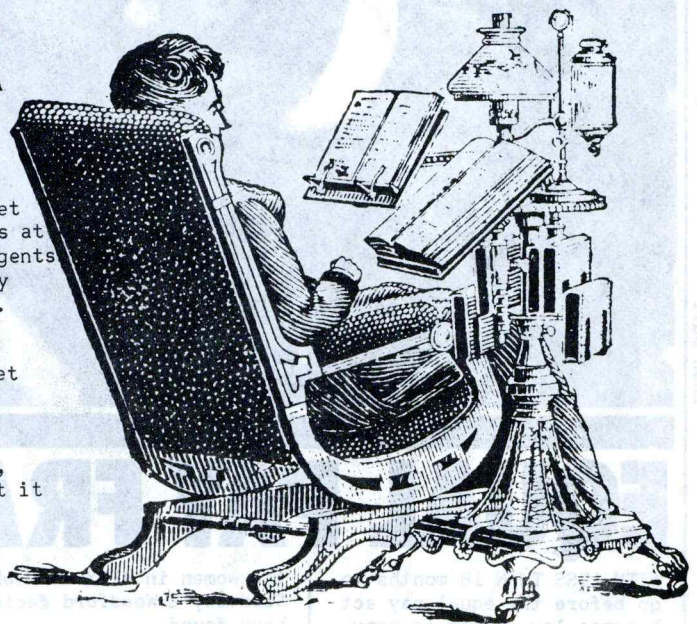
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Statistics show that the best response to police adverts come from readers of Tit-Bits, which only goes to show why one question in the police entrance exam goes like this: "Fill in the missing letters: V----T. (Clue: the word means empty.)"

Interesting ammunition for everyone fighting for higher wages, grants etc. comes from the CIS analysis of the 'Retail Price Index'. It comes to the mind boggling conclusion "that a tenant paying £5 per week should, according to the index, be receiving a disposable income of £60 per week". This implies a gross wage of around £80 per week.

You'd think that after a distinguished army career which included a brave attempt to wipe out large sections of the population of Ulster, the powers that be would fall over themselves to honour Brigadier Kitson (see elsewhere in this issue and several back copies). Not so. A quick glance at Who's Who reveals that a great blank has been left where the noble soldier's record of service should be. Is someone waking up to the fact that they have a dangerous criminal in their midst?

Who better to keep the wages down under Phase 111 than Sir Frank Figgures, chairman of the Pay Board, with £16,000 a year, a town house in Hampstead Heath and a country retreat in Rutland?

Sir Arthur Cockfield, the chairman of the Price Commission, on the other hand, was also given £16,000 when he got the job in March this year - a rise in salary from his previous job of £1 plus 47%

nuff said

Council Spies' Secret Code



A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT which was circulated to a handful of Stockport corporation officials recently, shows that most local authorities use spies to check up on the standards of council house tenants. This remarkable admission was made in the report by housing managers from various local authorities in connection with housing allocation policies.

These spies usually have innocuous titles such as

housing visitor. One authority states that it employs senior visitors who check on what the housing visitor considers a "border-line" case. Another authority checks the work of its housing visitors for "bias" and "inadequacy." An overall picture emerges of a growing bureaucratic structure whose sole concern is to invade the privacy of people in their own homes. The ethics of this kind of behaviour is not questioned.

Families who are spied on are graded by using a coded system in one authority. It works as follows:

1. VCFV means very clean and free from vermin.
2. CFFV means clean and free from vermin.
3. TOLCFV means a lower standard than above.
4. DSOS means dirty stove - on suspicion.
5. DSBF means dirty stove, bugs and fleas.

One housing manager admitted, incredibly, that he judges families by asking himself this question: "Would I accept a meal there if I was offered one?"

Having put families under close scrutiny, what happens then? Well, in at least one town in the report, an estate is specifically set aside for problem families. A similar policy has been operated in the past in Stockport by using the Gorsey Bank estate. The excuse for doing this from the housing manager quoted above is "birds of a feather flock together."

In other words it is the deliberate policy of some authorities to create ghettos. One housing manager goes even further and suggests "purpose-built units to which certain families could be transferred and kept under close supervision.."

Who said an Englishman's home is his castle?

Strangeways-Home Office admits 'Inadequacies'

THE HOME OFFICE has now pronounced its opinion of the PROP Report on Strangeways (see Freep 19 & 20). After nearly two months of investigations, the HO has discovered that "there are serious inadequacies in the physical conditions of Strangeways Prison and it is overcrowded." It admits that at the time of the report, the prison's population was 1,230, compared with the planned maximum of 909, and it coyly notes that "heating such an old building remains a problem."

But the statement says that "unsupported allegations of ill-treatment have not been substantiated and extensive enquiries have not revealed improper conduct on the part of prison officers."

Ted Ward, PROP's organiser, says the statement is "totally unsatisfactory", and he condemns Manchester councillors (each of whom received a copy of the report) for their failure to take an interest in it. He points out that similar reports are shortly to be

produced on Gartree Prison in Leicestershire and Albany Prison on the Isle of Wight.

Harold Conway, Labour councillor for Gorton South and a magistrate and member of the Police Authority, was taken on an official visit to Strangeways last August. He says: Going to Strangeways was one of the most depressing days of my life. It horrifies me that we incarcerate people in there.

"I wouldn't dispute what the PROP Report says about pay and working conditions, and I can confirm that a newly-made dormitory for about 12 prisoners, with proper toilet facilities, is unused because prison officers won't allow it."

Free Buses Slowed Down

SIR ROBERT Thomas, the ageing chairman of Greater Manchester Council, made a clumsy attempt to restrict Press coverage of a confidential report on public transport at the October meeting of

the council's powerful policy committee. He specifically asked reporters present to "go easy" on the part of the report which dealt with the pros and cons of free public transport.

The report - prepared by the Selne passenger transport authority and executive - set out the alternatives for public transport policy in the area. It said that free public transport - on both buses and trains - would cost £38 million, or a rate charge of 11.33p in the £.

Such a policy would have to be introduced "on basically political or welfare grounds," the report said. The main disadvantage, it went on, was that free travel would not reduce road congestion since only a limited number of car users would switch to public transport because of the nil charge. The committee didn't even discuss the free travel alternative and adopted instead a hotch-potch of "rationalisation" reforms. Once again the council has ignored the fact that only a minority of people in Manchester have a car. The latest figure for people without a car is 71% (1966) and this will still be high at 33% in 1984 (Selne prediction.)

Poisonous Paste

WOMEN who go to family planning clinics in the Greater Manchester area may be given a spermicide called Volper paste which has been found to contain a potentially dangerous mercury compound. The spermicide (to be used with a diaphragm) contains 420 parts per million of a mercury compound called phenyl mercuric acetate. It is manufactured by BDH Pharmaceuticals Ltd., and has sales in the UK of about 10,000 lb a year. This represents about 5% of the spermicide market.

In 1971 research on the effects of phenyl mercuric acetate by the Japanese scientist M Shimizu was published. It concluded that: "according to the results of this experiment, it seems that some injury to the kidneys of the maternal body may have occurred by the use of PMA as a contraceptive."

In the UK, according to the company, no tests of the safety of the mercury content of Volper paste have been made. Tests in the USA on the toxicity of these products used a method considered to be useless by a standard textbook on toxicity. A spokesman for BDH has said that the product was introduced over 30 years ago before any tests were legally required.

The Family Planning Association tests this product regularly for spermicidal efficiency, but according to several spokesmen does no test on the safety of its mercury content.

It is likely that damage to women caused by mercury-containing products can only be demonstrated by statistical methods of the type used to show the long-term effects of low-dose radioactivity. However, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Health Organisation conclude that there is no safe threshold for mercury intake, and recommend that there be no increase in the natural intake of mercury by humans.

More recently Mr Trevor Pitts, a research chemist and metallurgist, has produced a report showing that the use of Volper paste may be causing a dangerous and unnecessary increase in the amount of mercury in women. His report has been submitted to the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science.

Until the manufacturers prove the safety of Volper paste, and assuming that the Family Planning Association will not withdraw it, women who go to the clinics can ask for any of the other ten equally effective and mercury-free spermicides.

Abortion Breakthru?

CLINICAL trials are now taking place in several London teaching hospitals using a technique known as 'interception.' It involves the insertion of a small plastic tube - a cannula - through the cervix into the womb. Using vacuum suction the contents of the womb are quickly removed. It is being used on women a few days after their first missed period, ie before any test would establish pregnancy.

Interception is seen by some as a form of contraception, by others as an abortion technique.

The method is being used in several countries including the US. It was widely used in Bangladesh after the occupation and subsequent acts of rape by West Pakistani troops. Para-medical helpers were trained to perform interception on many pregnant women.

Advantages are that it is a quick, reliable and simple operation, requiring no anaesthetic and no hospital stay. If the Department of Health approve the trials, clinics could be set up to offer this service. Any woman who had missed her first period could go along to the clinic within the next few days. This is preferable to the long waiting periods in the National Health Service, and means that nursing staff would no longer be forced to assist in late abortions.

A quick safe abortion would be available for any woman.

RACHAEL BROWN

Theatre Restriction

THE CONTACT youth theatre company has taken the unusual step of putting on a play & recommending that kids under 15 don't see it. The play, Downright Hooligan, by Chris Bond, is about a 17 year old boy & the emotional & social pressures on his life which lead to a violent climax. The reason for the age limit is the explicit violence in language & action. Bond, the writer/actor at the Liverpool Everyman, first wrote the play for the Victoria Theatre, Stoke. It has already been acclaimed by an audience of N.West probation officers & social workers as a direct & unsentimental approach to the problem. In the production, the company is augmented by one dog.



Salford attacks Squatters

A HOMELESS young couple were finally rented a flat by Salford Corporation on November 13 - but only after they were evicted from a house by the council bailiffs where they had been squatting for nine months.

During that time John and Christine Lindsey had spent nearly £70 on repairing the derelict terraced house in Dalley Street. They had repeatedly offered to pay rent to the corporation, but on each occasion they were refused a rent book. Immediately after the eviction, the corporation moved in a family with two grown-up children - taking advantage of the work and cash that the Lindseys had put into the repairs.

John, a 24 year old dispatch foreman at a cardboard box factory, and 18 year old Christine started looking for a home as soon as they got married at the beginning of the year. They couldn't afford to raise a mortgage and the corporation would not put them on the housing list.

Dalley Street, along with

26 other streets in the Lower Broughton area has been in a deferred demolition area since 1968. Then, the 2,000 residents in 700 houses were told by the medical officer of health that ALL the houses were "unfit for human habitation and injurious to health."

Most of the residents are still there living in one of Salford's worst slum areas and they will be there for at least another two to three years before the area is demolished. Unlike other areas, of old housing, which residents believe can be saved and improved, Lower Broughton is ripe for demolition and the local action group are pressing for an early start. But at the same time they are having to protect homeless families like the Lindseys who have been forced to squat in run-down, empty houses.

Faced with the prospect of living with parents in overcrowded conditions, John and Christine decided to move into Dalley Street. The house was one of several in the area which had been left to

rot. It had not even been bricked up which is the normal practice. John got the walls pointed, the bedroom wall plastered, tiles on the kitchen ceiling and fixed the back door back on its hinges.

After refusing to accept rent, the corporation eventually applied for and got an eviction notice. On the day before it expired they moved out all the furniture except the curtains. When they returned the next day, after spending the night with friends they found the lock had been changed and another family living there.

Fortunately they think their furnished flat is reasonable at £4.50 a week. "But I think it's disgusting the way we have been treated up to now," John told Free Press. "They have obviously got us out because we made the place fit to live in."

As we have pointed out in previous issues, the blame for the plight of Salford's slum dwellers lies directly with the corporations lopsided housing policy. They cannot possibly clear all the unfit houses by their target date of 1980 and at the same time the corporation refuses to include reasonable houses in general improvement areas.

Free Facism

SOMEONE HAS BEEN dishing out free copies of the National Front's student newspaper Spark in Owen's Park Hall of Residence. It might be instructive to reveal a few facts about the Front's student organisation.

Before the job was taken on by Richard Lawson, the Front's student activities were organised by one Joseph Short, who was a student at Queen's College Cambridge from 1967-70. In view of the newspaper's name, it is ironical to note that Short was convicted of arson in Sheffield on Dec 8 1969, along with three others. Soon after receiving a suspended sentence, Short left the Front.

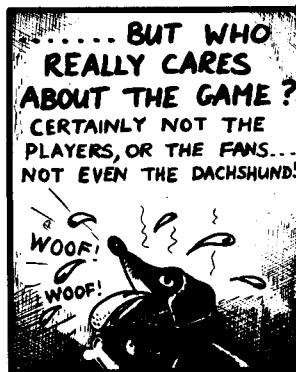
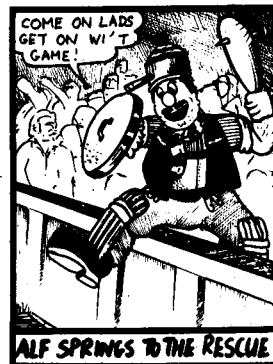
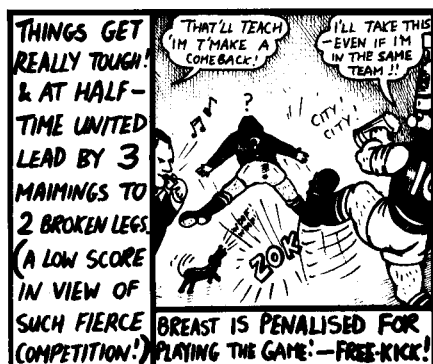
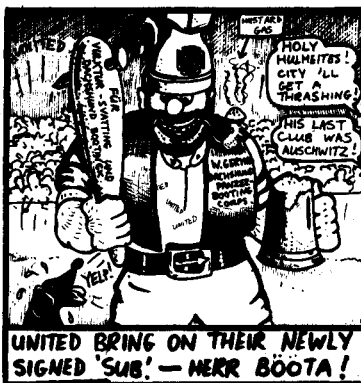
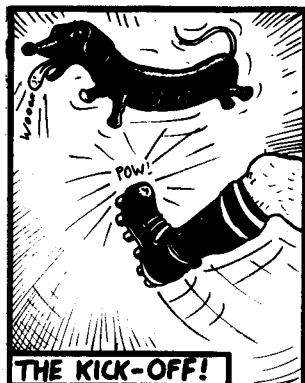
Another well-known Front student is Denis Pirie, who has been knocking about the extreme right scene for many years. He used to be a member of Colin Jordan's National Socialist Movement, and was one of the speakers at the infamous Trafalgar Square Rally in 1962, when Jordan declared his belief that Hitler was right.

Also in 1962, Pirie was found guilty, along with Jordan and John Tyndall (now editor of the NF magazine Spearhead), of organising a para-military group for political ends. Pirie was sentenced to 3 months in prison for this offence.



In 1963, Pirie became a member of the Greater Britain Movement, a split-off from the National Socialist Movement. The GBM merged with the National Front in 1967. Pirie's credentials as a student arise from the fact that he is now a mature student at Sussex University. Richard Lawson, the new student organiser and editor of Spark is an ex-member of the Conservative Party and the Monday Club. He studies law at Chelmsford.

Understandably, the Front has difficulty in attracting students to its ranks: for good reason, people don't stand around trying to sell Spark in the students' union or on street corners - it just appears; lying about on tables as a free handout. Its claim to have achieved a circulation of 10,000 of the last edition should be seen in that light.



Belfast women get NW support

TWENTY TWO Belfast Republican women, who have relatives in Long Kesh internment camp visited Manchester last month as part of the campaign to end imprisonment without trial in the six counties. Their three-day trip was largely ignored by the press but their presence did not escape the eye of the police who visited two of the homes where they stayed. Ostensibly the police were making inquiries into the Downey murder in Openshaw - a likely tale.

The women were brought over after initial contacts had been made with them by Jim Arnison, Lancashire correspondent of the Morning Star. His neice's husband is a political detainee in Long Kesh and he offered to help organise the trip while he was working for the paper in Belfast. An ad hoc Committee for the Reception of Belfast Women Against Internment was set up in Manchester with members from a wide variety of organisations.

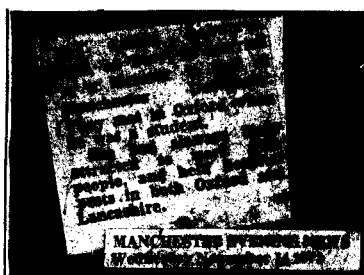
During the visit the women met students at the Manchester Poly and University and AUEW trade union officials on the district committee. On the final day they went down to London to lobby MPs. Stan Orme, MP in Salford, got them a committee room and eight Labour MPs talked to them.

None of the Tories invited turned up.

At the same time an Irish Political Hostages Committee has been set up in Britain to campaign for political status for Irish Republican prisoners in British jails. The inaugural meeting in London was addressed by Mrs Bernadette O'Hagan, wife of Joe O'Hagan, one of the three Republicans who made the helicopter escape from Mountjoy Jail. The IPHC will also campaign for the return of Republican prisoners - like the nine in the London car bombs trial - to serve their sentences with their comrades in the North.

NICE

NEARLY GOOD NEWS dept: looks like Manchester's neighbourhood law centre - refused a grant by the Home Office under the urban aid scheme - is going to be financed by the council and could open by next April. Considering it was on the top of the priority list for urban aid, that's the least they can do. Also looks like the Ducie Arms (see Freep 20) is going to be saved, after all. After a spirited campaign by students and staff from Manchester University, the Vice Chancellor has now been met by a deputation and has sent a letter off to the planning department endorsing conservation. Since the university has the final word over what goes on the site, the planning department can hardly say no.



Phase 3 Myths

THROUGHOUT the Tories' anti-inflation legislation, Government spokesmen have been saying that the 3 Phases of controls have still helped the lower paid workers. This persistent myth has now been well and truly buried by the latest anti-report from Counter Information Services. The report shows that real wages have gone down and that profits and prices have gone up, almost unhindered. When the proposals for Phase 2 were announced, the Daily Mirror thundered: 'It can be assaulted only on the grounds of unfairness. But is it unfair? The low paid who suffer most from rising prices will do proportionately better than others.' A more realistic picture was given in the Financial Times on September 28 which suggested that, since food prices are particularly important to the poor, 'the pensioners index has risen 10% more in the last year than the general index.'

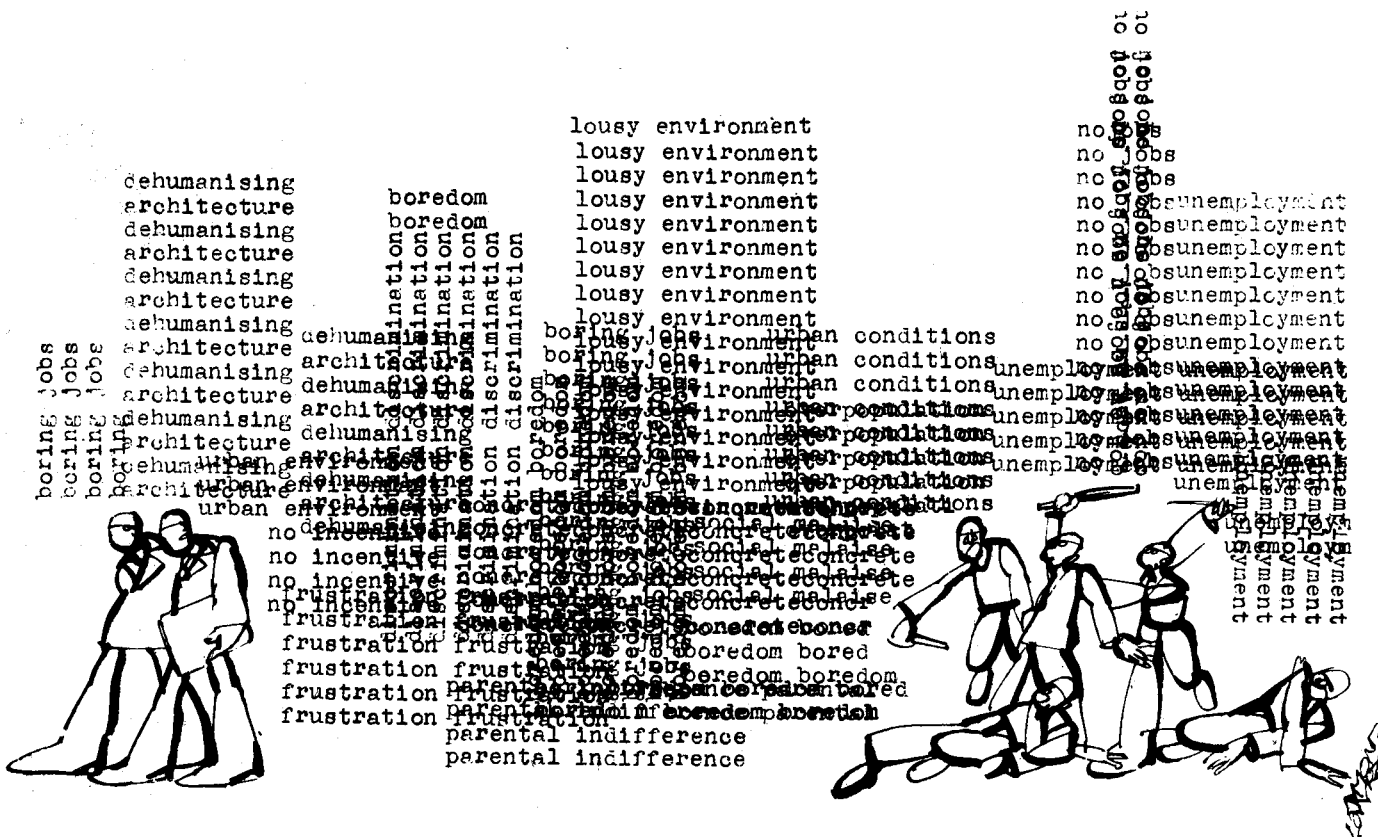
Nor are pensioners the only people who have suffered.

'Some 20% of the population have suffered as badly as the pensioners, and the poorest 5% appear, according to well-based computation, to have suffered a rise in their cost of living nearly 30% greater than the average.'

So says the CIS report in its conclusions. The rest of the report deals with an investigation into Phase 3 and the causes of world inflation. "What the policy may well succeed in doing," says the introduction, "if we let it, is to hold back the living standards of wage-earners to the benefit of profits. The profiteers will be shielded from the consequences of the inflation which will continue unabated. This, we believe, is the policy's real objective."

The other myth that profits are needed to boost investment is similarly dispelled: "If money can be made by speculation or simply by leaving the money in the bank or investing in low-wage police states overseas, then investment will not take place at home even though profits may be booming - as the GEC example shows."

The report suggests that the only way to stop inflation and to get rid of the system which produces it is social control over the level and direction of investments. In other words we can't let decisions be made - which affect thousands of people - by the 1% who hold four fifths of all personally-held company shares in this country.



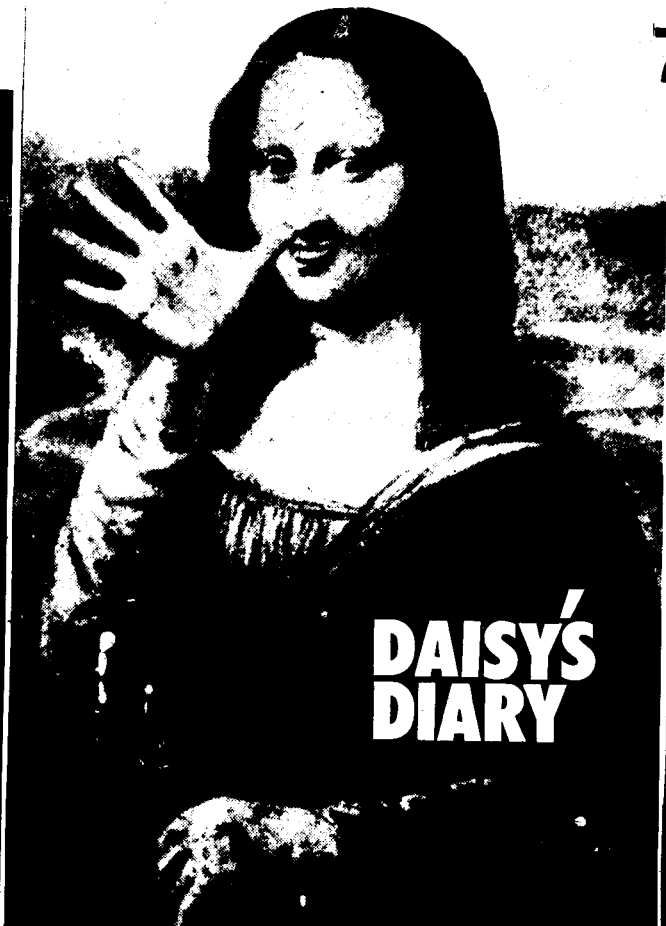
"I don't know what the hell's wrong with kids these days."

Union unites

Union Street estate in Ardwick is threatened to be completely surrounded by the proposed inner ring road. This monolithic planning boob is still going ahead and the residents have formed themselves into an association.

More than 40 residents drew up a plan of action and elected a committee of five. Apart from the daunting prospect of being cut off from shops by a ring of motor-

way, the residents' other problems concerned bad refuse collection, the lack of shops and post offices and the distance pensioners had to walk to collect pensions. The committee has so far got little response from its approaches to the Town Hall, so a petition calling for action has been collected and sent to the mayor, MP Gerald Kaufman (Wilson's ex-shoe-shine boy) and to councillors for the area Messrs Finley and Goldstone. The latter named is not hesitant in his approaches to the straight press about matters of national importance. Perhaps he might take a look in his backyard as well.



DAISY'S DIARY

Stockport's director of social services George Creighton is generally regarded as having done a good job in the town. It came as something of a surprise, therefore, when he re-applied for his job under local government reorganisation and got it by only one vote on the selection committee. One member on the committee is Alderman Walter Knight, Tory leader of the new district council and a director of a florists which often supplies flowers to the corporation. Recently, the florid and influential Knight was most upset when his son failed to get a job with the council as a trainee social worker.

Gourmets who can spend £20 on dinner for two at the Midland Hotel's smart French restaurant will, no doubt, be unperturbed to learn that the young commis waiters get around £16 for a 7-day, 70 hour week.

I heard a very naughty story about the boys in blue from Stretford the other day. Two of them were called out to a wood yard where they found a fire bomb. They duly took it back to Stretford police station where they started playing with it. The bomb went off & set the station alight. The local fire brigade were brought in to put the flames out & the extremely embarrassed, not to say singed police, asked for the incident to be covered up. It went down in the fire brigade's incident

book as "false alarm, good intent".

That's going even one better than the Manchester drug squad who decided to raid the Midland pub in Didsbury a while ago. The squaddies turned up in force & the total haul from a full pub was a £1 deal. A charming accountant acquaintance of mine estimated that the total operation cost in the region of £750. If you want my honest opinion, luv, those hoodlums are getting out of hand.

It used to be a tradition among workers at the Groves and Whitnalls brewery in Salford to take a tippie of the firm's nectar during the tea break. The firm knew it, so when a gent from the management strolled round the other day and found the men abstaining, he wanted to know the reason why. The stuff's not worth drinking, anymore, came the reply. We prefer to bring our own tea. Oh, what!

You may like to know that Pamela Marsden, the new Evenings News columnist is the director of a public relations consultancy in Wilmslow and that among her clients were the snotty King Street traders. You may also like to know that George Best is getting £50 a go for his Friday column which is written by someone else, anyway.

6 MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS
Friday November 23 1973

Thug's reign of terror

4 OLD WOMEN MUGGED



Radio None

GREATER MANCHESTER Independent Radio bosses will be interested in a market survey which has been carried out on its sister station London Broadcasting. The survey showed that not one single person was listening to the new, dynamic station. A similar survey conducted by the Beeb, and cunningly leaked to the trade press, showed that 2% of the potential audience were tuned in to LB. The advertisers aren't coming forward, either and a report recently conducted by Manchester Unin-

iversity and the University of Illinois shows that only 51.8 per cent of British businessmen had faith in the power of advertising. Such a poor record one critic has suggested, is a result of having too many newspapermen in commercial radio and moves are afoot to exclude newspaper interests from commercial radio altogether. This should cause great consternation in the corridors of the Evening News which has a 10% holding in Greater Manchester Independent Radio, or GRIM as we prefer to call it.

SEX AC

LOOPHOLES and deficiencies in the Equal Pay Act 1970 will probably make the effects of the Act minimal. Recent statistics show that women in industry still earn on average £18 less per week than men. And in the USA, where they have had legislation for equal pay since 1963, women's wages are still only 58 per cent of men's.

To support the Equal Pay Act, the government recently brought out its proposals, 'Equal opportunities for men and women,' which are designed to make discrimination at work on the grounds of sex unlawful. This is after 2 select committees and six attempts to take anti-discrimination bills

through parliament. But the Equal Opportunities Commission which would be set up under these proposals, to identify & expose discrimination, would have no powers to enforce its recommendations

Employers are dodging the full effects of the Act

The Act, which comes into full effect in December 1975, sought to eliminate discrimination between men and women both in their pay and in the terms and conditions of their employment. It established the woman's right to equal treatment when she is employed:

- a) on work of the same or broadly similar nature to that of men
- b) in a job though different from those of men, has been given equal value to men's jobs under a job evaluation scheme.

Many employers are already dodging the full effects of the act. In some factories job responsibilities have been rearranged so that jobs formerly done by men and women are now solely done by men.

This makes it impossible to compare men and women's jobs as a basis for equal pay. Promotion has also been used to remove men from an area of comparison with women. For instance, the chairman of a chain of shoe shops, with men and women assistants, had the bright idea of promoting all the men to 'assistant managers' overnight.

Devious

Other devious employers have given men 'responsibility allowances' for such things as working part of the time on the shop floor. Women are apparently incapable of doing some of the physical activities required on the shop floor (sic).

LOCAL WOMEN

Women workers at Hawker Siddalee factories in Chadderton & Woodford (Stockport) came out on strike recently. They are demanding that the company begin implementation of the Equal Pay Act which came into operation last January.

Differential

Under Phase 2, companies could take the first step towards equal pay by reducing the differential between men's & women's wages by one third, & under Phase 3 by one half.

The Union involved at Hawker Siddalee, APEX, has over 600 members in the 2 factories. The official claim, to reduce the differential in male & female wages by one third, would mean an immediate rise in the women's wages of £1.50.

On 19th November, the workers at the Woodford factory voted unanimously to reject the firm's offer of £1. The strike committee felt that the offer

was insulting. The average wage for women at the factory is about £17.50 & the claim would only raise this to £18.

Since the offer was rejected security officers at the two factories, who are also in APEX, have voted to come out leaving only a skeleton staff for the security of the plant.

In October 1972, the firm introduced a job revaluation scheme which, the union claims, is being used to circumvent the implementation of the Equal Pay Act. The scheme revalued jobs on the existing grade scale to negate the effect of the increases it would have to bring in under the Act.

Grades

The management say that this revaluation was done by an outside agency, but they have not said who the agency was.



SHAM

Other discriminatory payments which favour men include long service increments, 'merit' awards, bonuses for good attendance and willingness to work overtime. Women are unlikely to qualify for this sort of payment when they have home responsibilities of looking after children and pregnancy.

Overtime rates, incentive schemes and bonus payments are already heavily geared to benefit men. And as the Act relates to only equal basic pay and not to actual earnings, this situation will continue.

Some sex discriminations won't be illegal anyway if sex can be shown to be a genuine occupational qualification or where it is offensive to public taste and decency, or where customer preference makes employment of a particular sex unnecessary.

Further, the Act provides that no collective agreements may be made after 29 December 1975 which distinguish between male & female rates. BUT where no provision is made for a male rate in a particular category, then a specific female rate may still apply. It must be no lower however than the lowest male rate. The main deficiency of this section is that there are no penalties for non observance.

Employers could flout it in the same way that they now flout the Factories Act in relation to safety. Another difficulty with this section is that it only applies where agreements have been drawn up. It will not affect non-Union factories or factories where the Union is too weak to negotiate such agreements. In these cases there is

nothing to stop the employers having the lowest rate for the job which no man would do.

Attitude

If the attitude of some local employers is anything to go by, the implementation of equal pay has a long way to go and will have to be fought for. It won't be given voluntarily despite the 'Act'

The Hawker Siddeley dispute is not the first time that there's been industrial action over the Equal Pay Act in the Manchester area.

In the famous strike at Salford Electrical Instruments, the workers finally won an agreement that they regarded as a major victory. The 10½ week strike won an overall increase of £1.65 for women & £2 a week for men, with an extra £1.17 towards equal pay for women thrown in from August. In-

creases over the £1.17 are being made as

necessary to bring the differential down by one third

APEX, which is the union at the forefront of the equal pay struggle, has now negotiated 300 equal pay agreements covering 20,000 members. It has also authorised strike action on 23 occasions. Since the SEI strike, about 40 companies have made agreements along similar lines.

Parity

Under Phase 3, which makes progress towards equal pay even more difficult because it can only be made where there are mutually agreed job evaluation schemes, unions will nonetheless be fighting to halve the current male & female differentials. In the future, campaigns will have to be fought on maternity pay, the retirement age & sex discrimination in pension schemes before women at work are brought onto any effective parity with men.

HT

The workers are equally adamant in their belief that the work was done by Hawker Siddeley's own Organisation department. Certainly the union was not consulted or allowed to participate in the evaluation.

The existing scale means that the work done by men is in grades 1-4, & jobs women have done in grades 5 & 6.

There are 5 unions at the Woodford plant; AUE, TASS, ETU, ASTMS & APEX. All these unions officially support the strike & TASS has threatened industrial action if the dispute is not settled quickly.

Profits

Hawker Siddeley's profits for the year ending March 1973 were £30.6 million, or £476 per UK employee. This was a rise of 34% over the preceding year.



10

Tricky Dicky

The Greater Manchester Council has decided that councillors and the main officers should declare their financial interests on a public register. It will be a voluntary register, of course, so anyone can keep a few nominee shares up his sleeve. But the decision to set up the register did not go through without some opposition. It came from none other than Alderman Richard Fieldhouse who is not a man who takes kindly to publicity. On more than one occasion his eager solicitors have been generous with their threats. Fieldhouse suggested that the matter be shelved until the Redcliff-Maud report on the broad question of financial interest of public figures.

The report will take ages to see the light of day so Fieldhouse's move was not supported. His entry of the register will include, no doubt the following list of companies in which he has an interest.

Fieldhouse and Ross (Builders) Ltd
Slade Property Management Ltd
Slade Northern Holdings Ltd
Slade Developments Ltd

And as far as declaration of interests go, by law the interests of his spouse are identical with his own so we had better include on the list Northern Flats Ltd., of which his wife Hilda is a director.

Ancient Acts used to curb Unions

'FOLLOWING' is an offence. Or so the police thought when they charged Edwin Murphy & Bertram Dickinson with "persistently" following "Alan Speakman about from place to place" to compel him "to abstain from visiting premises which he had a legal right to do in connection with his employment". But they had to rake up section 7 of the 100 year old Conspiracy & Protection of Property Act to find the charge.

The incident occurred during the Equal Pay strike at Salford Electrical Industries in Eccles earlier this year. Union policy during the 10½ week strike was to contact union officials at other factories & ask them to support the strike by blacking SEI goods. To do this, the APEX union had to find out where SEI goods were going. So they followed the lorries. This, effectively, was the charge.

The accused followed a lorry to its places of delivery. The driver of that particular lorry was Alan Speakman, the Transport Foreman for SEI. He was kindly filling in for the drivers who were supporting the strike.

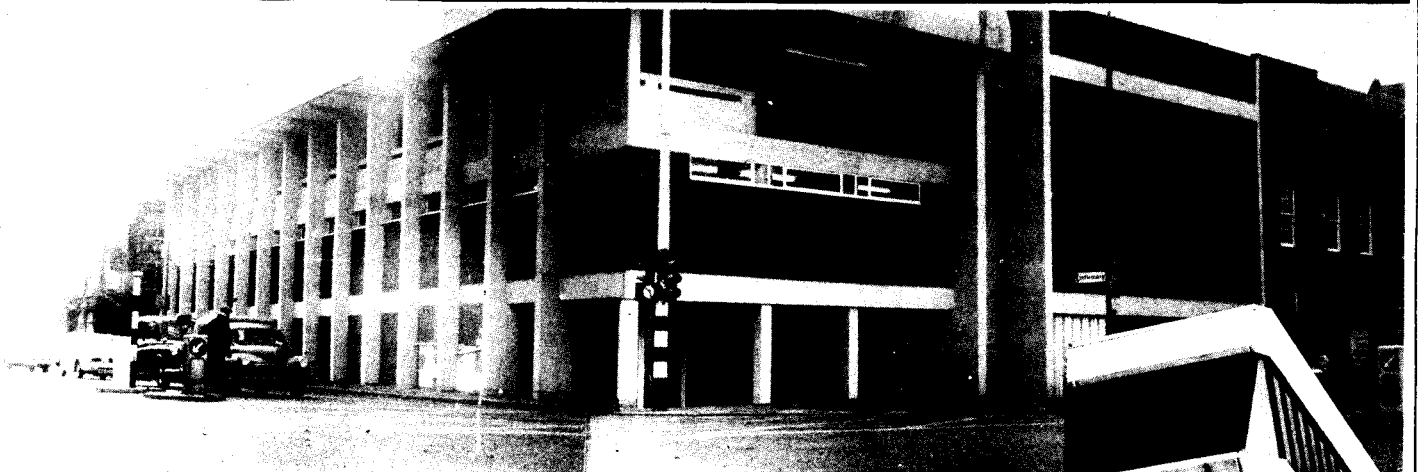
The accused pleaded not guilty & elected to go for trial by jury. Committal proceedings, where a magistrate decides whether or not there is a case to answer, were heard on 5th November.

There are 2 types of committal proceedings: a) the new style, (which is designed to save time), where the magistrate makes a decision from written statements alone; & b) the old style, where witnesses can be called & cross examined. They chose the old style. They admitted that they'd followed the lorry but denied that this was to compel it "to abstain from visiting premises". The magistrate wasn't

convinced that there was any evidence to support this police claim either & she therefore found that there was 'no case to answer'.

The relevance of the case, apart from the decision itself is that criminal laws are increasingly being used to control industrial disputes. The Industrial Relations Act does contain penalties for unfair industrial practice, but these are only civil & don't therefore have the same direct effect on individual trade unionists as criminal law. Besides which, trade union opposition to Phases 1-3 & the Industrial Relations Act has become so well organised that large firms in particular are frightened of industrial action if they use the Act.

Peaceful picketing is legal, according to section 134 of the Industrial Relations Act. But the use of criminal charges like breach of the peace, obstruction (of both the police & the highways), nuisance & police assault reduce that so called right to nothing.



Barracks Possibilities

READERS OF FREEP will be well aware of the strictures of those two preposterous military men Brigadiers Calvert and Kitson, Both in their eccentric ways believe that modern architecture takes too little account of the defence pot-

ential of the buildings they design. Good to see that the education authorities in Manchester are beginning to take notice of their ideas. The new Manchester Polytechnic buildings featured above show excellent possibilities as a barracks. The new College of Adult Education has two blank walls facing the main roads with the single entrance on the corner easily barricaded

against insurgents. Further down the road the new section of John Dalton College shows an even more radical departure. The banks of windows which in normal times would make any general wince have been angled upwards to provide the unappetizing view shown above. Ideal, our paramilitary correspondent tells us, for diverting blasts from car bombs, stones and even low velocity bullets.



Womb with a view

THIS MONTH a group of American women are touring Europe giving information about self-help clinics which they help to run in the States. Self-help clinics began in America about two years ago when groups of women got together to discuss the problems they faced through doctors and existing medical care. By using a plastic speculum a woman can perform her own internal examination. The speculum is easily inserted into the vagina. The two plastic "duck bills" hold the walls of the vagina apart and by using a mirror and a torch, you can see your own cervix, a pleasure normally restricted to members of the medical profession.

A once weekly check would enable a woman to identify a vaginal infection at an early stage, and thus enable her to get treatment quickly. A more frequent check, by observing the changes in the cervix during the menstrual cycle, would enable a woman to detect pregnancy almost immediately. By using self-examination a woman could also check that an IUD was in place.

Above all, the idea of self-help allows a woman to learn about her own body, not in the privacy of the home, but in a group where she can share the information she has gained with her sisters. It is important that women have this knowledge, that they begin to control this important aspect of their lives.

a hysterectomy for one 18 year old woman.

We are all too familiar with the problems of our own health service: the GP who dishes out tablets and pessaries for a vaginal discharge without even bothering to examine you, let alone do a smear; the GP who dishes out the Pill without bothering to check your medical history and suitability; the difficulty in getting an appointment with a NHS gynaecologist and the lengthy procedure to get a NHS abortion; the pressure for sterilisation after abortion; the growing tendency for hysterectomy at the first sign of a disorder in the womb.

All these are points on which women can get together to seek an improvement in the health service.

As a result of the American sisters' visit to Manchester, a group of women are meeting to discuss setting-up a self-help clinic and the form this would take.

SOME of the American groups have had trouble with the law. In LA undercover agents masqueraded as women interested in self-help. Two women were charged. Colleen Wilson pleaded guilty to one of the eleven charges: that of inserting a diaphragm, for which she was fined and put on two years probation. She can no longer work at the clinic. Carol Downer was accused of practising medicine without a licence. As this related to the principle of self-help Carol pleaded not guilty. Her crime had been



When they were in Manchester, the American women told horrifying tales from their visit to Denmark where many women are being fitted without their knowledge with a new kind of IUD, the progesteron-T, which combines the disadvantages of the traditional IUD with the dangers of hormone contraceptives. They also told of late-term abortions performed by 'new' methods in Philadelphia which resulted in

to treat a friend suffering from "thrush" - an itchy vaginal infection. Natural yoghurt is a well-known cure, it eases the irritation and helps the vagina to produce its own organisms to combat the infection. On her friend's request Carol had applied some yoghurt to the vagina. The friend had even brought her own pot of yoghurt. After a 13 day trial and nine hours of deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

Plant Hill Put The Boot In



OUR Report in the last issue about allegations of Police brutality against kids in Moss Side has prompted people in the North Manchester area of Moston to tell us about their serious complaints about the Police.

RESIDENTS in a small group of back streets in Moston have been facing a deliberate policy of police harassment which has been building up for over a year. The main targets for the police have been the youths who play around the street corners -- because they have nowhere else to go. Several told us they had been hounded and assaulted by policemen and some parents, fearful for their children's safety, have imposed on them a 9pm "curfew."

The police concerned come from Plant Hill station where £900 - recovered from a post office raid - recently disappeared in mysterious circumstances. It has still not been found and no arrests have been made.

The result of the bitter confrontation has been a serious decline in police/public relations. The chief constable is currently investigating allegations against certain of his men, but as with most internal police inquiries, it seems unlikely that any action will be taken.

In a series of interviews with parents and kids, Free Press was told the background to the trouble. The mood of the residents was summed up by father of two teenage boys Mr James Todd of Ethel Street: "We have lost all respect for the police and so have the lads round here," he told us. And his neighbour Mr Arthur Gilmartin added: "It's just not safe to let any of the kids out after nine o'clock. They can't even go down to the chip shop on the corner without the police interfering".

The parents claimed that only

one or two shifts from Plant Hill are mainly responsible for the trouble. Two or more policemen would drive into the area - often in a "meat wagon" Black Maria - & any kids on the streets would be liable to be picked up, sworn at, thumped, told to get home & generally hounded for no apparent reason. Certain lads - known by sight or name to the police - are often picked out for special treatment. On one night when we visited the area a police officer came up to a group of youths on the corner of Ethel Street & made a bee line for one of them he knew. He called out his name & said he was going to arrest him. The boy ran home with the rest of his mates and the policeman strutted off with no obvious intentions of carrying out an arrest.

Several of the youths said that the police often descended on the area in force. On one occasion a "meat wagon" and two minis with seven policemen turned up one night when a group of boys were standing on a corner of Ethel Street. The sudden arrival of this battalion ended with one of the boys being kicked. On another occasion a group of four boys and a girl were set upon by several policemen as they were going to the local chippie from a youth club dance. That ended with a 15 year old boy being arrested and taken to Plant Hill where he was put in a cell for 20 minutes. He was later convicted of obstructing the footpath which, at that point is 12 feet wide.

The police from Plant Hill are obviously getting careless - in more ways than one.

12

★ G Swizz

by John Berger, Penguin.

Although G contains an element of intellectual pornography (and tasty drawings of private parts), it also has several important points to make about male/female relationships and typical male attitudes to women. Most surprisingly is how Berger manages to describe lucidly how a woman sees herself and how others see her. (This is also word for word in his Pelican Ways of Seeing - cheating a bit.)



His narrative is, at times, gripping and the political upheavals which are included add to the interest, authenticity; and the occasional comments from the author stop the reader believing that G's escapades are all for real.

CAROL HENBRAWN

★ Progressive Capitalism?

THE LEFT AGAINST EUROPE?
by Tom Nairn Penguin 40p

Britain's entry into Europe was used by the Tories to cover up their other failed policies, by the Labour Party to revive itself. The left took up a nationalist position and, inadvertently, supported the other two. That is the argument of Nairn, first published in New Left Review. He discusses the positions taken up by several Marxists groups and finds them all, bar one or two individuals, lacking.

He himself argues that the left should have supported entry into the EEC as progressive capitalism - and in the long run to the advantage of the working class in their struggle to overthrow it.



★ SF Classic

BILLION YEAR SPREE: The History of Science Fiction by Brian W. Aldiss. Weidenfeld & Nicolson. £3.75.

A detailed, critical & entertaining study which ranges from the classic novels of the genre to the sf mags. Defining Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' as both the starting-point of, & central to the Aldissian conception of sf he argues convincingly that modern sf has tended to separate into two trends. At the one pole stand the 'thinkers' personified by Wells.

At the other are the 'dreamers', Edgar Rice B. and his successors. Although the book brims over with appraisals & comments on a host of writers, the author cannot resist the odd tantalising aside on sf film & art. His survey of the magazines & their influence on writers is contemptuous of the Gernsbackian gadgeteers, duly reverent toward the Astounding 'think-tank' while the 60's New Worlds-new wave is welcomed as much needed new vigour. An excellent book. Let us hope that the suggested 2nd volume concentrating on the contemporary scene comes to fruition in less than the 10 yrs. this one took.

FRED STEWARD



★ Plasma Bomb

A MAZE OF DEATH by Philip K. Dick. Pan 35p.

A diverse group of scientists on the planet Delmak O try

in vain to penetrate the fog of confusion and despair surrounding their existence. Their battle for survival crumbles beneath the death & decay in their midst. The atmosphere of desperation in the face of partial knowledge & pressing time is powerfully conveyed with continuous hints of the existence of far greater though inexplicable powers over matter & time. The apparently nightmarish quality of the situation assumes a distinctly Dickian aspect when the underlying role of polyencephalic fusion is finally revealed. Not quite as mind-blowing as some of the author's other novels it still features the casual appearance of such delights as electronically operated organisms & exploding cubes of protoplasm.

FRED STEWARD

★ Bigotry and Reaction

POLITICAL MURDER IN NORTHERN IRELAND by Martin Dillon and Denis Lehane. Penguin Special 45p.

JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND Cobden Trust 80p

Earlier this year the Thomson-owned Belfast Telegraph refused to publish 4 articles written by two of its journalists. The articles showed that most of the 200 sectarian assassinations in Ulster since spring 1972 had been committed by Protestants. Such a charge was unpalatable to both the British government and army and the loyalists. It was not until June that the Ulster Freedom Fighters became the first Protestant group to accept responsibility for any killings. So the journalists wrote a book. Evidence at trials during the first half of the year started to support the findings.



So far, so good. Messrs Dillon and Lehane have done a valuable service. The rest of the book, however, must be treated with caution. "We have tried earnestly not to judge anything or anyone in this book," they say. But who can be impartial about Ulster? Their attempts to be merely criminal investigators has led them to condone the bigotry and reaction in Unionism and, more seriously, the undercover role of the British Army put into practice by the notorious Brig. Kitson during his two years as Belfast Army commander.

Like all moderates in a situation of armed and violent class confrontation their anxiety to be impartial gives support to the oppressors.

In some respects a more useful pamphlet has been published by the Cobden Trust. Justice in Northern Ireland is a study of the lack of confidence the Catholics have in the Ulster legal system. It begins with a fairly sympathetic account showing how the Catholics were forced onto the offensive after the civil rights campaign, and then on to the attack. This is followed by an examination of the legal system at work and how it actively discriminates against Catholics.

JOHN DOHERTY

★ Odd rip off

I DREAMS OF A SCORPION
pike Milligan. Penguin

A bit of this and a bit of that make up a very odd collection of Millipoems. This being Milliganese, the best. That being the the serious subjects of the cover notes which I find difficult to be fair about. They're kind, sympathetic, sad and occasionally bitter; but they're also plain and unoriginal. They lack sparkle. Yet each time I turned over a page I found a few lines beautifully turned out, saying more than a few lines decently ought to. So if this lack-lustre review has put you right off buying these little dreams with a sting in their tale, then at least rip off a copy from your local bookstore if only to read the odd great line or two in the hospital poems.

SEAMUS O'SHILLYSHALLY

★ Pleasantly Nice

JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL by Richard Bach. 50p. Pan.

Surrounded by the ad-men's shrill cries of "1 million copies sold", this delightful though modest story is being thrust well into the ranks of the contemporary cultist classics. The tale of Jonathan Livingston Seagull & his experiences of flying & living is based on a gentle passion about flight, about achievement & the perfection of skill. It contains some nice pics of seagulls & makes a very pleasant half hours reading.

FRED STEWARD

★ Casy Cookin'

THE TOGETHER COOK BOOK. New English Library 35p.

The outlook of the authors is both simple and nice: if you live together, then cook together. Contains practical recipes with separate instructions for two pairs of hands. No further excuse for opting out of the culinary activities, MCPs please note.

FRED STEWARD

★ Also

SPELL OF THE WITCHWORLD by andre Norton. DAW Books. Seventh volume in the Witch World saga.

COMIC INFERNO by Brian Aldiss. New English Library. 40p. A collection of 9 short stories written over the last 15 years.

University Union



Dec1 BarclayJamesHarvest
Friends AJWebber
LateBar 8-1 60p
Dec8 Sandgate
GreasyBear 35p
Dec12 Carmen + Rotgut 30p

All plus Stereo Disco | Bars |
Hot Food

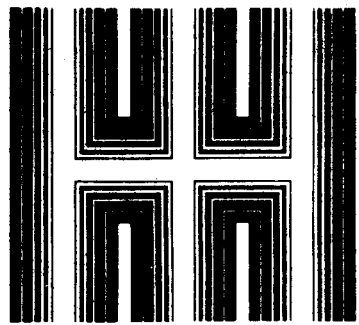
Manchester Polytechnic Oh yeah!

Sat Dec 8
Robin Trower Band
& **Bedlam**
Sat Dec 15
Drive-In Rock
with the
Rockettes



Cavendish House All Saints 8-2am

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★ Delicate tension

A DOLL'S HOUSE.

Claire Bloom is immaculate as the petite, diminutive wife who achieves awareness through matrimonial crisis. A subtle Hamptons screenplay captures all the delicately tense spirit of the Ibsen original, as the young wife's realisation of her role as a mere appendage throws her into conflict with the law, religion and all traditional assumptions about honour and duty. Tendency, as with many plays as films, to overload with weighty dialogue scenes, is over come by the sheer finesse of the script, backed by imaginative camerawork. Excellent support performances from Anthony Hopkins, Ralph Richardson, make this a really good movie. Not to be missed.

IVOR BLAND

★ Bogus bogey

NIGHT WATCH "X"

"It's a damned obscenity of a house". Well that, love triangles apart, is what it's all about. With the banging doors & stormy nights of a traditional horror film, this is an odd combination of marital infidelity & murder most foul. Liz Taylor, as the 'mad' wife of Lawrence Harvey, only blossoms during the hysterical bits when she sees strange goings on in the bogey house. "Beset with memories & dreams" it's all in her mind. Or is it? The one & only horrific scene, 5 mins before the end, hardly makes up for the general lack of tension & stilted acting. All in all, it's a disappointing film unless you're in love with Liz Taylor's face.

PAULA CARSON

★ Surprise gas

STEELYARD BLUES "X"

Hilarious and unexpected, Steelyard Blues is a gas. Donald Sutherland is highly successful in self-indulgently producing and acting. He, a born wrecker, surrounds himself with an array of lunatic friends, all played in well-observed yet throwaway style. This band of urban outlaws attempt to free themselves by escaping in a beautiful and ancient seaplane. The only blot on the horizon is his brother - lunatic in his own way: he's into politics and police. The film is packed with wit, humanity, gentleness and surprises and demands to be seen many, many times.

SIMON NAIL



★ Crude crew

OAKLAHOMA CRUDE "AA"

A little confused this movie. Lena (Faye Dunaway) is a man-hating feminist who owns the rights on a would-be oil well in booming Oklahoma. She also despises women because they are all so soggy, which doesn't leave her with many people she trusts. She hates men because her father (John Mills - with middle class English accent) is a no-good bum who abandoned her at birth. This incidentally killed her mother as well. Pa eventually gets Lena to employ Mase to help her

with the rig and the three of them get down to the serious business of fighting off the grasping clutches of the local monopoly which is busy kicking hell out of the small-time prospectors. George G Scott's Mase is the success of the movie: a cunning, resourceful old timer who is on the right side. The humour of his part is what keeps the film going. But really the film can't make up its mind whether to explore the problem of the hardened individual seeking some kind of relationship, or to concentrate on the conflict between the individual property owner and the big mon opoly.

IVOR BLAND

★ Briefs

Judge for yourself which is the more crass: FINAL PROGRAMME or CONFESSIONS OF A CHINESE COURTESAN. Both fantasies carry all the cliches from their respective cultures. One is almost Kung Fu meets Women's Lib, and the other a spirited if unintelligent Sci-Fi chase. Megalomaniac female computer programmer tries to get her grips on elusive dolly bloke and his amazing magnetic tape. I wouldn't recommend either, but I'm glad I didn't miss em.

EMPEROR OF THE NORTH stars Lee Marvin as a down and out hobo in the America of the depression. A classic train movie: will the hobo-hero make the unacheived free-ride on Shak's train to Portland? The vicious Shak, Ernest Borgnine, is the man who kills hobos who try to freeload on his wagon, the dreaded No.19. The simple plot is packed with detail, atmosphere & drama, & given an ex-

tra dimension by conflict twixt Lee Marvin, Al, the Emperor, & an incompetent young upstart hobo who's trying to dethrone him. One of best movies around.

THE MAN CALLED NOON has lots of secrets. He's lost his memory. And so begins the mystery. Is he the vicious outlaw that the evidence suggests or could he be someone else? And why does someone want to kill him? Slowly & skilfully the puzzle unfolds, with stunts & deaths galore before Noon, played by Richard Crenna, finds his true identity. I'm no lover of westerns, but I certainly enjoyed this one.

It's double star billing with Burt Reynolds' WHITE LIGHTENING & James Coburn's HARRY IN YOUR POCKET. But that's about it. The first is a modest boot legging tale & the second stars Coburn as a cool "white-trash" made good pickpocket who teaches the art of his trade to a couple of youngsters. That part could've been very funny but it wasn't. It was a pocket picking bore.

★ Hung up

HEAT 'X'

This Andy Warhol film is crammed to the point of giving way at the seams with helpless, hung-up women and equally helpless men, none of whom appear able to achieve anything except an unending variety of sexual athletics. The setting is Hollywood; the players are worn out movie stars, former boy wonders, grotty motel owners, kinky night club performers, divorced husbands and rejected off-spring. All of them are utterly repulsive in their efforts to conceal the empty realities of their superficially wealthy and flamboyant lives. They are also amazingly boring in the whining repetition of their problems - loneliness, sexual frustration, failure and lots more.

Take it whatever way you want: it's a comment on the film industry; it's a send-up of Americans; it's got deep meaning; it's got no meaning at all. There are some very funny lines, and some hideously accurate cameos which don't make it altogether futile.

★ Double horror



SSSNAKE "X"

Ssssnake is a sssecond-rate horror story of average megalomaniac scientist. Mad professor, his curvy daughter, his assistant, King Cobra & others variously entwined round a rather scant plot which never really adds up to much.

BOY WHO CRIED WEREWOLF "X"

Lies in the werewolfist strand of main-line Draculism. Averagely frightening production given zest by a hilarious Jesus freak who camps it up on the edge of the movie.

IVOR BLAND

POP

BELLE Vue 223 1331
November
29th Elton John

HARDROCK 865 6023
December
2nd International Folk Festival

OPERA HOUSE 834 1787
November
25th Steel Eye Span
26th Mott The Hoople
29th Hudson Ford

December
2nd Donovan
4th Stages - London Contemporary Dance Theatre
8th Ken Dodd
to 9th March 1974

FREE TRADE HALL 834 0943
November
26th Al Stewart
27th Rory Gallagher
28th The Yes (2 nights. Sold out)

December
1st The Spinners (sold out)
3rd The Groundhogs
5th Fairport Convention
7th The Little Angels of Korea
10th Hawkwind
11th The Faces (sold out)
15th Brass Band Concert
17th The Golden Earring
18th The Colne Valley Male Voice Choir (Yorkshire)

January
7th The Stoma Yamashatas
East Wind & Sun Trader
11th Jeff Beck

THEATRE

LIBRARY THEATRE 236 7406
Nov.20-Dec.8 Cat On A Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams
Dec.11-29 Rookery Nook by Ben Travers
Jan.2-Feb. Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson

FORUM 437 9663
Nov.21-Dec.8 Rookery Nook by Ben Travers
Dec.12-Feb.9 Mother Goose - pantomime

OCTAGON 0204 20661
Nov.6-Dec.1 All My Sons by Arthur Miller
Dec.4 (for 6 weeks) A Chinese Fantasy for children

PALACE 236 0184
Dec.15-Feb.23 Cindarella

UNIVERSITY THEATRE 273 5696
Nov.29-Dec.15 Contact Theatre present Downright Hooligan by C.V.Bond.

FORUM HALL
Nov.6-Dec.1 Lonesome Stone - multi media rock musical

EVENTS

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of these but do check the dates and performance times by phoning the numbers given. The dates given for CLUBS are all week commencing unless otherwise stated.



CLASSICAL

FREE TRADE HALL
December

2nd NEILSON: Symph.No.3; GRIEG: Piano Con. in Am; ELGAR: Enigma Variations (Conductor: James Loughra ELGAR: Enigma Variations (Con. John Pritchard)
4th ELLIOTT: Double Concerto; EARLE BROWN: 1st perf. of a new work; JOHN CAGE: Cheap imitation (1st perf. in this country); (London Sinfonietta)
6th HOWELLS: String Con; Rawsthorne: Symph.Studies; BRAHMS: Piano Con.No.2 in Bb;(Con.Sir Adrian Boult)
9th HANDEL: Messiah (Con.Sir Charles Groves)
12th/ MOZART: Symph.39 in Eb; MENDELSSOHN: Violin Con.in
13th Em; SIBELIUS: Symph.5 in Eb; (Con.Andrew Davis)
16th CAROL CONCERT 1 (Con.Meredith Davies)
20th BEETHOVEN: Symph.2 in D; RAVEL: Piano Con.in G; SHOSTAKOVICH: Symph.1 in Fm;(Con. James Loughran)
21st CAROL CONCERT (The Hospitals)
23rd CAROL CONCERT 2 (Con.Mereidith Davies)
January
6th ROSSINI: Barber of Seville; GRIEG: Elegiac Melodies; BEETHOVEN: Piano Con.5 in Eb; TCHAIKOVSKY: Symph.2 in Cm; (Con.James Loughran)

FORUM
December

3rd HAYDN: Emperor; BORODIN: 2nd String Quartet; (The Fitzwilliam String Quartet)

NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC
December

17th CHRISTIAN WOLFF's music

15

CLUBS

TALK OF THE NORTH 780 1707
November

25th Hurricane Smith
December
2nd Paper Dolls & Barry Kent
9th Ivy Benson
16th George Roper & Vince Eager
23rd Mark Channing
30th Trevor Chance

BROADWAY 681 7333
November
25th The Black Abbotts
December

2nd Randy Thompson
3rd/ Jack Jones
4th
9th The Endeavors
16th The Dooley Family
23rd Barbara Law
30th Edentree

FAGINS 236 0265
November
25th Scott Walker
December
3rd Springfield Revival
10th Edwin Heath - hypnotist.
17th The Second Generation
24th The Sheps Banjo Band
31st Bunny Lewis

GOLDEN GARTER 437 7614
November
26th The Drifters
December
3rd Cliff Richard
10th Tommy Hunt
17th Tommy Cooper
24th Lambert & Ross
31st Justin & Wilde

BLIGHTY'S 37 72697
November
25th Freddy Starr

December
2nd The Endevors
9th Brother Lees
16th Jack Young
23rd The Show Bandits

NORTHERN CLUB 205 2768

November
29th Reg Coates Experience (3 nights)

December
6th Strawberry Fair(3 nights)
13th The Maddisons(3 nights)
20th Fairfield Wells (3 ")
24th Silverwood
31st The Show Bandits

VEW TREE HOTEL 998 7275

November
25th Johnny Young
December
2nd Ross MacManus
9th Mike Cordello
16th One & One

WARREN COUNTRY CLUB 430 6178

November
25th Mike Burton & Danny Dareth
December
2nd Art Nouveau & Ken Davi.
5th Tony Christie (1 night)
9th Reg Coates Experience
16th The Nobodies
23rd Maxton G.Beasley
30th Heads Together

ADS & INFO

TRANSPORT

GREATER MANCHESTER transport action group are planning to set up study groups or working parties on various aspects of transport. Info and applications for membership to W Lowe, 13 Windmill Lane, Reddish, Stockport.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT run a shop for the local community, lorries to supply furniture to those in need throughout Manchester, a furniture workshop, car pool, a community press, etc. Can you help? 29 Poland Street, Ancoats. 205 1473

FREEP

SELL Freep to strangers and feel good all over. Details on request.

BACK issues of Free Press from No 4 onwards are available post free at 5p a copy from 45 Aspinall Street, Manchester 14

GET IT HERE

People living outside of Greater Manchester can get Free Press at the following bookshops.

LONDON

Collet's London bookshop, 64 Charing Cross Rd., WC1

Compendium, 240 Camden High Street, NW1

IS Books, 6 Cotton Gdns, E2.

Rising Free, 197 Kings Cross Rd., WC1

Red Books, 24 Boundary Road, NW8

LEEDS

Books, 84 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2

LEAMINGTON

Other Branch, 7 Regent Place, Leamington.

OXFORD

East Oxford Advertiser, 84 Cowley Road, Oxford.

BOOKS

BIG RED DIARY for 1974: the first socialist diary full of facts and info. Pluto Press available 75p from Grass Roots.

WOMEN

WOMEN'S LIB: Stockport group has a stand on "choice" at an exhibition on overpopulation at Stockport Town Hall, Nov 28-Dec 1.

Socialist women in Women's Lib are having a meeting at the Women's Centre, Upper Brook Street on Dec 3 at 7.30pm. All welcome.

PREGNANCY TESTING for free at the Women's Centre, Upper Brook Street, Sats 10am to 12. 273 2287.

GAY

GAY LIBERATION GROUP meets every Wednesday 8pm at Lower Turks Head, Shude Hill.

ROCHDALE

Beautiful Stranger, 6a Hunters Lane, Rochdale.

LEICESTER

Black Flag Bookshop, 1 Wilne Street, Leicester

Any other shops who want to stock it please get in touch at 45 Aspinall Street, Manchester 14

NEW Carlos Castaneda book now in stock at Grass Roots, 100 Oxford Road, Mchr.

Inroads

ORGANISE your own work in a small independent group. Jobs in street theatre, community centre, youth projects, psychiatric work. Must be hardworking and responsible. All living expenses plus £6 a week. Contact Inroads 56 Sussex Street, Lower Broughton Salford 7. 834 4406

A CURSORY POEM FOR MRE THATCHER

There was an old woman who lived in a hat,
She had so many children to educate that
She selected the clever ones, let in the rich,
And left the others to roll in a ditch

to be cont.

CONTACT IN DOWNRIGHT HOOLIGAN

Downright Hooligan takes a direct unsentimental look at some of the problems in our society ...

and what's being done about them?

The very poor, the very ignorant, the unemployed?

What are they supposed to do — just behave themselves?

Downright Hooligan is written with skill, and humour.

But it probes a situation most people don't want to know about, and contains scenes of violence and violent language. It isn't family entertainment.

It isn't suitable for children under 15.

But it's a truthful, unsensational portrait of a very empty world.

University Theatre, 29 November — 15 December

Box Office telephone 061-273 5696

Tickets 25p 40p 50p 60p

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